

### **REMARKS**

A new drawing has been added (i.e., FIG. 7) reflecting the phone conversation with the Examiner on March 30, 2004. Additionally, the specification has been amended to describe the new drawing (FIG. 7). No new matter has been added.

The Examiner rejected claims 12, 22, 27 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response, Applicants contend that the rejection of claims 12, 22, 27 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is moot because claims 12, 22, 27 and 29 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 9, 11, 21, 23, 25-26, 28 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lin (U.S. Pat. 6,301,121).

The Examiner rejected claims 10, 13 and 30-31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lin (U.S. Pat. 6,301,121) in view of Saito et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,479,335).

The Examiner rejected claims 24 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lin (U.S. Pat. 6,301,121) in view of Nagarajan et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,639,321).

Applicants respectfully traverse the §112, §102 and §103 rejections.

### 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 9, 11, 21, 23, 25-26, 28 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lin (U.S. Pat. 6,301,121).

The Examiner alleges that “ Regarding claims 9 and 25, Lin discloses a semiconductor device (fig. 2) comprising:

a substrate 110, wherein the substrate is selected from the group consisting of a printed circuit board (column 4, line 36); and a semiconductor device 120 electrically coupled to the substrate, wherein the semiconductor device is divided into a plurality of segments 120-1 to 120-3. Regarding claims 11 and 28, Lin discloses a first segment and a second segment of the plurality of segments are congruent with respect to each other. Regarding claim 21, Lin discloses the substrate is symmetrically coupled to each segment of the semiconductor device.

Regarding claims 23 and 32, Lin discloses the semiconductor device is a semiconductor chip. Regarding claim 26, Lin discloses each segment of the semiconductor device is symmetrically coupled to the substrate ”.

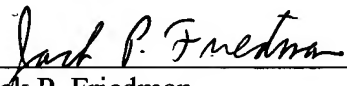
As to claims 9 and 25 as amended, Applicants respectfully contend that Lin does not anticipate claims 9 and 25, because Lin does not teach each and every feature of claims 9 and 25. For example, Lin does not teach the feature of “a semiconductor device electrically coupled to the substrate, wherein the semiconductor device is divided into a plurality of segments, wherein at least one segment of the plurality of segments is **not congruent** with respect to each of other said segments” (emphasis added). Lin does not teach that a semiconductor device is divided into a plurality of segments and that at least one of the segments is not congruent with respect to any of the other segments of the semiconductor device as taught by Applicant’s claims 9 and 25. In

contrast, Lin teaches multiple chips 120-1 to 120-3 (see Lin FIG. 2A) that are all congruent with each other. Therefore Applicant's contend that Lin does not teach the preceding feature of claims 9 and 25. Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully maintain that Lin does not anticipate claims 9 and 25, and that claims 9 and 25 are in condition for allowance. Since claims 10, 11, 13, 21 and 23 depend from claim 9 and claims 26, 28, and 30-32 depend from claim 25, Applicants contend that claims 10, 11, 13, 21, 23, 26, 28, and 30-32 are likewise in condition for allowance.

### CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

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